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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR FOR MUTUAL SECURITY
Washington 25, D. C.

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February 2, 1953

[REDACTED]
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

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Dear [REDACTED]

In line with the revision and simplification of the EDAC working group structure (OM-20, January 12, attached), and on the basis of further experience in the operations of the entire EDAC framework, I have had under consideration for some time the desirability of further changes to streamline the activities of EDAC.

The first such change I would suggest is the discontinuance of the EDAC Staff Committee. It is my feeling that, in the light of experience, the functions of that group can be absorbed by EDAC itself with more frequent referral of problems to EDAC. Matters which would call for attendance of those persons now presently designated as Staff Committee members could be accomplished by designating those officials as alternates to EDAC members where not already provided.

I anticipate that a flexible arrangement can be worked out between the working groups and EDAC. The revision of the working group set-up makes clear that some such groups will be of a technical and special nature, working within the framework of well-established policy. Others--for example that on Economic Defense Programs and Policy--will have, at least in part, a policy formulation job to do.

The second revision suggested is that of reconstituting the present Steering Group as an Executive Committee. This, coupled with the realignment of the working groups, would be undertaken with a view to more formal and less frequent meetings of the group and direction of attention of the Executive Committee to problems which could not be readily referred to other groups.

Under these circumstances, I feel that we should make every effort to ensure that the Executive Committee is able to coordinate, to guide, and to refer for further action reports or recommendations of the working groups; but that we should equally ensure that the Executive Committee does not become merely another step between a working group and EDAC. It is recognized that from time to time it

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may be necessary to create special advisory groups on economic defense problems which are not a part of the working group structure.

The following statement of functions is drafted with the above in mind:

The Executive Committee will:

1. Advise and assist the Chairman, EDAC, in following the activities of the working groups.
2. Recommend the assignments of special problems to the working groups, special advisory groups, or individual agencies.
3. Review reports and recommendations of the working groups in order to recommend such further action as needs to be taken within the EDAC structure, or by the Administrator, or by the Secretary of State.
4. Study and recommend appropriate interagency arrangements for organization, operational assignments, and priorities.
5. Undertake the execution and follow-up on all special assignments made by the Chairman, EDAC.
6. Be responsible for the adequacy of preparation of all matters submitted to EDAC for consideration.

It is requested that you convey to this office as soon as possible your comments on the above suggested changes, at the same time indicating changes in membership or alternates where appropriate.

Sincerely,

Seymour J. Rubin
Deputy Administrator for
Mutual Defense Assistance Control

Enc: OM-20

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